

*A Personal Message from the
Chairman of the Institute*

The health status of Latinos, especially for Puerto Ricans, is significantly lower than it is for whites or blacks. This is a situation which is totally unacceptable and unacceptable. This is why we need a strong voice in health care policy creation and reform.

There are basically two main problems when it comes to Hispanics gaining access to health care insurance and lack of adequate medical providers in the community. Many Hispanics either have no health insurance because they simply can't afford it or lack proper coverage.

The Institute will play a crucial role in keeping the community informed about health care reform as it evolves on the national level.

Thomas Ortiz, M.D.
Chairman

"Good Health Is the Public Interest!"

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*The Institute for Hispanic
Health Care Policy and
Research*

*"Good Health Is the
Public Interest!"*

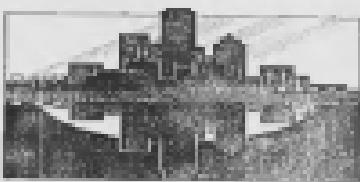


"Come help us help others!"

WHY AND HOW THE INSTITUTE WAS FORMED

The Institute for Hispanic Health Care Policy and Research (IHHCP&R) main goal is to ensure that the health care interests of the Latino community are well represented and protected. The mission of the Institute is as diverse as the rich community which it represents; it is to increase the awareness of and responsiveness to Latino health issues at all levels of public and private institutions. The objectives through which the institute seeks to accomplish its mission are: community leadership and advocacy development, policy development and recommendations, research, development and implementation of culturally relevant health programs and, cultural literacy and competency development in health training and education. The dire need for access to health care in the Latino community is what compelled the founders of the Institute to take action. Latinos are overrepresented in the statistics depicting the most urgent health care needs in the urban settings. The Institute's mission is to address these problems and work to resolve the many challenges facing the community. IHHCP&R is a non-profit organization. One of its primary target populations is children and their health care interests. The Institute will study ways by which the primary care infrastructure in N.J.'s urban centers can be developed in order to insure access to quality health care for all.

WHAT ROLE WILL THE INSTITUTE PLAY IN MITIGATING THE NEEDS OF THE LATINO COMMUNITY?



- "Being at the Table" of health care reform discussions and decisions.
- Conducting relevant disease specific and clinical research on Latino populations.
- Developing committed leadership in health care from all health professions.
- Addressing needs assessment and strategic planning to meet the health needs of our Latino community, its growth and demographic challenges.
- Educating consumers on health care policy.

The Latino Community's Role in Health Policy Development and Reform

- * Universal Coverage for "all"
- * Basic yet Comprehensive Benefits Package
- * Investment in Robust Primary Care Infrastructure in Underserved Areas
- * Investment in programs that increase Latino representation in health professions.
- * Regionalization of Expensive and Unnecessary Technologies
- * Consolidated Systems of Premium Collection (Three Regions: North, Central and South)
- * Oversight Board in Each Region: Consumers, Providers and Administrators
- * Management of Regional Data Bank, Quality Assurance, Utilization and Need Assessment & Monitoring
- * Insure that there is Equitable Representation by Target Consumer Groups and Community Leaders at policy table